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10/538676

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on 06 July 2005.

Rosalie A. Centeno
Rosalie A. Centeno, Secretary

In the Application of Thomas Kern et al

Ser.No.: 10/538,676

For: A METHOD AND DEVICE FOR EXTRACTING A PLATE FROM AND FOR INSERTING A PLATE INTO A STACK OF PLATES FROM BELOW

Filed on: June 10, 2005

Customer Number: 30996

Commissioner of Patents

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

- 1) DE 101 62 957
- 2) US 6,164,961
- 3) US 4,971,514
- 4) US 5,518,361
- 5) DE 41 09 293

- 6) DE 42 23 813
- 7) US 2,288,526
- 8) US 3,034,684
- 9) US 1,637,549
- 10) US 5,083,411
- 11) DE 689 16 580

Reference 1 is discussed in the instant specification for this application on page 9.

References 2 – 7 have been cited in the International Search Report and are submitted in order to provide the Examiner with easy access to said references.

References 8 - 10 are all in the English language and therefore need no further discussion as to their relevance. In accordance with United States Patent and Trademark practice, it is no longer necessary to enclose copies of U.S. Patents.

Reference 11, discloses a sagger loading apparatus, for loading unfired ceramic sparking plug bodies into a sagger, includes a clamp for removing the bodies from a conveyor and depositing the bodies on pins in an array, which form an intermediate store. A gripper assembly having four inwardly and outwardly movable walls grips the bodies on the pins and removes them and moves them simultaneously into the sagger, where the walls of the gripper are moved apart to leave the sparking plug bodies in the sagger, ready for firing.

Copies of the listed documents, with the exception of any US Patent references, are submitted herewith along with the form PTO-1449.

It is respectfully requested that any fees required and not enclosed herewith or any shortages in any fees be charged to Deposit Account 02-1653.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

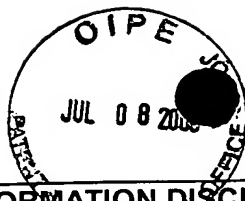
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert - Becker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert W. Becker, Reg. No. 26,255
for the Applicants

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RWB/rac
Enclosures



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Complete if Known	
CUSTOMER NUMBER: 30996		Application Number	10/538,676
		Filing Date	June 10, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Thomas Kern et al
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
		Attorney Docket No.	SHT-3572

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent Number Pub. Number	Issue Date Pub. Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	2	6,164,961	12/26/2000	Luscher et al			3/5/1999
	3	4,971,514	11/20/1990	Hunter			3/8/1989
	4	5,518,361	5/21/1996	Smith			12/19/1994
	7	2,288,526	6/30/1942	Hokanson			10/15/1937
	8	3,034,684	5/15/1962	Jackson			7/6/1959
	9	1,637,549	8/2/1927	Chandler			6/30/1924
	10	5,083,411	1/28/1992	Axmann			9/5/1990

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	1	DE 101 62 957	17 Jul 2003	Germany				X
	5	DE 41 09 293	31 Oct 1991	Germany				X
	6	DE 42 23 813	9 Dec 1993	Germany				X
	11	DE 689 16 580	16 Feb 1995	Germany			X	

OTHER PRIOR ART & NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	

Examiner		Date	
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7/6/2005